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# **Discrepancy between High and Low Level of Attitude among Parents of Lalgola and Beldanga-II blocks in Murshidabad District of West Bengal towards Public Libraries in Empowering Women**

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## **Abstract**

In this study attempts have been made to bring into focus discrepancy between high and low level of attitude among the parents of Lalgola and Beldanga-II blocks in Murshidabad District of West Bengal towards public libraries in empowering women. The study was conducted from the aforementioned blocks on 100 parents of the students who were benefited from Kanyashree one time scholarship grant of Rs. 25,000. The main purpose of the study is to assess the role of public libraries in empowering women. The result shows that Kanyashree Prakalpa has a significantly powerful effect towards reducing child marriage (thereby reducing the risks of early pregnancies, associated risks of maternal and child mortality, and other debilitating health conditions, including those of malnutrition) and school dropout. The scheme encourages financial inclusion and is considered as a tool of empowerment for adolescent girls. It also supports the positive impact of higher education and delayed marriages and also works to improve the social power and self-esteem of girls. The study further exposed that the role of the public library is significant towards the prospect to gain skill and knowledge that help the girl children become economically, socially and politically independent.

**Keywords:** Public Library, Women Empowerment, Kanyashree Prakalpa, Social and Economic Development, Parental Attitude etc.

## **Introduction**

Before this coinage and usage of “empowerment” became globally popular, women were deeply considering gaining control over their lives, and be a significant decision maker both at home and beyond. It won't be impertinent to state here that Paulo Freire (1996) in his book Pedagogy of the Oppressed has discussed 'empowerment' in a formal way for the first time in the 1970s. Women empowerment refers to the power of women to think and act freely and to realize the potential as equal members of society. Women empowerment is usually discussed in relation to economic, political and social empowerment. Possibly, if the women are continuing higher education, they will be

empowered in economic, politics and social and is often cited as one of the most important ways to promote gender equality, reduce poverty and improve not only the well-being of women, but also societies.

Kanyashree Prakalpa is introduced by Government of West Bengal in 2013 as a unique Conditional Cash Transfer scheme aimed at simultaneously reducing child marriage (hereby reducing the risks of early pregnancies, associated risks of maternal and child mortality, and other debilitating health conditions, including those of malnutrition) and school dropout. The scheme imparts more than just monetary support; it is a means of financial inclusion and a tool of empowerment for adolescent girls. The scheme supported the positive impact of increased education and automatically delayed marriages and also worked to enhance the social power and self-esteem of girls through a targeted behavioural change in communication strategy<sup>1</sup>. Kanyashree Prakalpa has a total of three components. The first component consists of annual grant of Rs. 750 for unmarried girls between 13- 18 who are enrolled in classes VIII- XII in government recognized regular or equivalent open school or equivalent vocational/ technical training course (KP 1). The second component is a one time grant of Rs. 25,000 on completion of 18, conditional upon the girl remaining unmarried and pursuing education/ vocational training/ technical training/ sports training till that age (KP2). Kanyashree Prakalpa (KP 3) is the last one for the girl students who are currently studying under any university. This scholarship will help the girl students in their higher studies. Under the Kanyashree KP3 scheme a science stream student will receive Rs. 2500 per month and the arts and commerce stream students will receive Rs. 2000 per month.

“We may sit in our library and yet be in all quarters of the earth.”

— **John Lubbock, The Pleasures of Life**

Public libraries occupy a crucial place in modern society as an agent of educational, informational, political economic and antiquarian functions. Public libraries are the only associations dedicated wholeheartedly to the use of collecting, preserving, transmitting and protecting the widest and most effective use of the records of civilization by the society of which it is a part. Public library is observed as a significant entity in local community development and empowerment process, particularly in a rural and underprivileged community. It has been recognized as an essential component in the life of community members, as it offers information that is important for its own development. Public library provides information that they use to gain skill and knowledge that help them become economically, socially and politically independent.

In the study of *Biswas et al. (2020)*, they assessed parental attitude, practice and factors influencing public services and consequently women empowerment through public libraries amongst parents in the area. Kanyashree Prakalpa is an initiative of the West Bengal government to improve the lives and the status of the adolescent girls and in raising educational achievement of girls, prevention of child marriage and financial inclusion. The study also found that the public library was a local information center that allows users to access knowledge and information. Public libraries as custodians of

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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.wbkanyashree.gov.in>

knowledge have played a vital role in disseminating information and training on women's empowerment<sup>2</sup>.

*Biswas and Deb (2019)* demonstrated that the study was on the perception of guardians about public libraries in empowering women in one of the community development blocks of Murshidabad district of West Bengal. Here, the undertaken study was developed in the way that Kanyashree one time grant of Rs 25,000 would be used as start up money to initiate a small enterprise and with the establishment of financial empowerment, the other issues like taking decision in family, participation in societal decision and the contribution in the rural administrative decision will unitedly form the strongest mesh of women empowerment<sup>3</sup>.

*Shetty M and Hans (2019)* shows that the educational attainment and economic involvement are the key elements in ensuring the empowerment of women. Economic empowerment develops women's capability to impact, transform or form a better nation. Even after seventy years of independence, India's development is slow due to lack of women's participation. Women are often invisible in the development scenario. Development process without the participation of women, who form a significant bulk of the society, will be irregular. Education reduces inequalities, gender biases and encourages women to make a good society and to become the most active part of the economy. Education empowers women to equip themselves with the ability to enable them to explore the world and partake fully in the development process<sup>4</sup>.

*Brahma (2018)* has analyzed the status of women empowerment in India. It clearly shows that women empowerment is very necessary to make the bright future of the family, society and country. Women need fresh and more capable environment so that they can take their own right decisions in every area for themselves as family, society or country. In order to make the country as a developing country, women empowerment is an essential tool to get the goal of development. The government and other private institutions are supporting the women in the leadership positions in public sectors. Leadership of women in India in the public sector is the key to the development of the nation. Representing women in public sector is a matter of justice; however it needs to bring forward all the perspectives to make women empowerment effective<sup>5</sup>.

*Vyas (2018)* expressed in the study that skill development not only creates employment opportunities but also empowers women. The aim of skill development, in case of women, is not only just simply preparing them for jobs; but also to boost their performance by improving the quality of work in which they are involved. This paper clearly highlights the impact of skill development on women empowerment. The basic

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<sup>2</sup>Biswas, S et al. (2020). Parents' attitude towards women empowerment in public services: role of public libraries in Beldanga-II Community Development Block of Murshidabad district in West Bengal

<sup>3</sup>Biswas, S & Deb, P. (2019). Role of Public Libraries in Empowering Women of Lalgola Community Development Block in Murshidabad district of West Bengal: An Analysis from Parents' Perception

<sup>4</sup>Shetty M, S. S & Hans, V. B. (2019). Education for skill development and women empowerment

<sup>5</sup>Brahma, A. (2018). Government Schemes: The Challenges of Women Empowering, Women Welfare, Development and Progress are Huge Responsibilities of Indian Government

need for empowering women is to encourage the required skills and abilities in order to shape up their overall personality and raise their status within the society<sup>6</sup>.

*The study of Gupta (2016)* has aired a discussion on the skill development of women. The paper focuses on the problems, issues and challenges faced by women entrepreneurs, how to overcome them with skill development policies of Indian government and problems faced by them while pursuing the same<sup>7</sup>.

In the study of *Ahamad, Sinha and Shastri (2016)*, it was found that the skill development can also take place through vocational training along with various measures such as Pradhan Mantri Kausal Vikas Yojna, National Skills Development Corporation and National Skills Development Mission<sup>8</sup>.

In the study of *Anyalebechi and Udo-Anyanwu (2016)*, it has been exposed that the main areas of need of the respondents for using the public library are information, education and social; reference materials, government publications, serials/journals and textbooks are to be provided to users which will be highly adequate. All the libraries studied do not provide mobile library service; respondents are highly satisfied only with reprographic, reference and extension services. Inadequate resources, traditional library practice, lack of awareness and poor reading culture are the main challenges hindering the use of library services for social well being of the users<sup>9</sup>.

According to the study of *Vavrek (1995)*, some of the conditions affecting rural and small libraries in the United States were highlighted and described their roles in providing information services. For many Americans, the community library continues to be viewed as a lifeless sea of books and used primarily by women<sup>10</sup>.

### **Objective of the study**

- To examine the level of attitude of the parents of Kanyashree Prakalpa towards women empowerment
- To assess the socio-personal and attitudinal casual variable
- To identify the factors responsible for the high and low level of perception
- To estimate the nature of interdependency between the dependent and independent variables in the above segment
- To assess the difference of their level of attitude among the parents of Northern and Southern regions of Murshidabad District

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<sup>6</sup>Vyas, A. (2018). The Impact of Skill Development on Women Empowerment

<sup>7</sup>Gupta, S.K. (2016). Study of women empowerment through skill development & vocational education in India

<sup>8</sup>Ahamad, T, Sinha, A & Shastri, R. K. (2016). Women Empowerment through Skills Development & Vocational Education

<sup>9</sup>Anyalebechi, Linda I & Udo-Anyanwu, Adaora J. (2016). Public library services and the attainment of the social well being of users in Enugu state

<sup>10</sup>Vavrek, B. (1995). Rural Information Needs and the Role of the Public Library

- To study the attitude of the parents towards role of the public library for women empowerment

## **Methodology**

The present study is based on rigorous house hold survey conducted from November 2018 to April 2019 in the Lalgola block, district of Murshidabad, West Bengal. Similar study is based on individual survey in another block namely Beldanga-II. The survey was conducted from November 2018 to May 2019. The data was collected from each block on 100 parents whose daughters received one time Kanyashree scholarship grant of Rupees Twenty Five Thousand on attaining the age of 18 years. The total sample size of the blocks namely Lalgola and Beldanga II respectively in the study is 200 among the parents of the students who were benefited from Kanyashree one time scholarship grant of Rs. 25,000. A semi-structured schedule was placed before each respondent parent separately to measure age of parents, educational status, financial condition, housing condition, involvement towards the society etc. We used statistical methods to explore the problem with the help of different statistical methods like correlation, mean, structure matrix and the Mahalanabis D-square analysis.

## **Outcomes**

Outcomes of the present analysis are three folded. In the first phase analysis includes the effectiveness of Kanyashree one time grant (Y), age of the respondent (X<sub>1</sub>), educational status (X<sub>2</sub>), financial condition of the family (X<sub>3</sub>), housing condition (X<sub>4</sub>), involvement towards the society (X<sub>5</sub>), association with self help group (X<sub>6</sub>), reason behind the association with self help group (X<sub>7</sub>), availing bank loan (X<sub>8</sub>), reason behind taking the bank loan (X<sub>9</sub>), nature and extent of savings (X<sub>10</sub>), attention towards daughter's education (X<sub>11</sub>), expenditure towards daughter's education (X<sub>12</sub>), difficulties towards daughter's education (X<sub>13</sub>), role of Gram Panchayats in getting Kanyashree grant (X<sub>14</sub>) and role of Block Development Office in getting public services (X<sub>15</sub>).

In the second phase, analysis includes the perception level of parents on women empowerment (Z) from 22 causal factors like age of the respondent (X<sub>1</sub>), educational status (X<sub>2</sub>), financial condition of the family (X<sub>3</sub>), housing condition (X<sub>4</sub>), involvement towards the society (X<sub>5</sub>), association with self help group (X<sub>6</sub>), reason behind the association with self help group (X<sub>7</sub>), availing bank loan (X<sub>8</sub>), reason behind taking the bank loan (X<sub>9</sub>), nature and extent of savings (X<sub>10</sub>), attention towards daughter's education (X<sub>11</sub>), expenditure towards daughter's education (X<sub>12</sub>), difficulties towards daughter's education (X<sub>13</sub>), role of Gram Panchayats in getting Kanyashree grant (X<sub>14</sub>), role of Block Development Office in getting public services (X<sub>15</sub>), effectiveness of Kanyashree grant (X<sub>16</sub>), use of Kanyashree scholarship grant towards education (X<sub>17</sub>), wages towards women empowerment (X<sub>18</sub>), encouragement towards women empowerment (X<sub>19</sub>), social taboo towards women empowerment (X<sub>20</sub>), role of public libraries towards knowledge dissemination (X<sub>25</sub>) and activities of public libraries (X<sub>27</sub>).

In the third phase, analysis includes the role of public libraries towards women empowerment (W) from 15 consequent variables such as effectiveness of Kanyashree grant (X<sub>16</sub>), use of Kanyashree scholarship grant towards education (X<sub>17</sub>), wages towards women empowerment (X<sub>18</sub>), encouragement towards women empowerment (X<sub>19</sub>), social taboo towards women empowerment (X<sub>20</sub>), assess the level of women empowerment (X<sub>21</sub>), availability of public library (X<sub>22</sub>), association with rural public library (X<sub>23</sub>), level of association with rural library (X<sub>24</sub>), role of public libraries towards knowledge dissemination (X<sub>25</sub>), available services of rural library (X<sub>26</sub>), activities of public libraries (X<sub>27</sub>), expected services of rural library (X<sub>28</sub>), up-gradation of public library (X<sub>29</sub>) and suggestion towards development public library (X<sub>30</sub>).

## Result and Discussion

**Table I: Number of cases by group of unweighted and weighted between dependent variable (Y) and 15 casual variables**

Number of cases	Lalgola		Beldanga- II		Lalgola & Beldanga- II	
	Unweighted	Weighted	Unweighted	Weighted	Unweighted	Weighted
6	7	7.0	1	1.0	8	8.0
7	2	2.0	8	8.0	10	10.0
8	2	2.0	14	14.0	16	16.0
9	28	28.0	26	26.0	54	54.0
10	8	8.0	14	14.0	22	22.0
11	23	23.0	24	24.0	47	47.0
12	29	29.0	13	13.0	42	42.0
14	1	1.0			1	1.0
<b>Total</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>200</b>	<b>200.00</b>

Table I shows that the number of explanations used in the unweighted and weighted analysis and the distribution of the observations into groups used of the two blocks namely Lalgola and Beldanga-II in the analysis.

**Table II: Group statistics between effectiveness of Kanyashree one time grant (Y) and 15 casual variables**

Variables	Group Means			Group Std. Deviation		
	Lalgola	Beldanga-II	Total	Lalgola	Beldanga-II	Total
X <sub>1</sub>	48.23000	47.95000	48.09000	4.63159	6.43911	5.59629
X <sub>2</sub>	2.75000	2.66000	2.70500	1.20918	1.27303	1.23921
X <sub>3</sub>	1.58000	1.55000	1.56500	0.49604	0.50000	0.49700
X <sub>4</sub>	1.95000	1.94000	1.94500	0.77035	0.73608	0.75153
X <sub>5</sub>	1.43000	1.43000	1.43000	0.81965	0.81965	0.81758
X <sub>6</sub>	1.62000	1.53000	1.57500	0.48783	0.50161	0.49558
X <sub>7</sub>	1.51000	1.30000	1.40500	1.30651	1.39624	1.35282
X <sub>8</sub>	1.63000	1.43000	1.53000	0.83672	0.53664	0.70824
X <sub>9</sub>	1.36000	0.90000	1.13000	1.31441	1.23501	1.29285

<b>X<sub>10</sub></b>	1.60000	1.36000	1.48000	1.31809	1.37452	1.34859
<b>X<sub>11</sub></b>	2.60000	2.61000	2.60500	0.51247	0.49021	0.50023
<b>X<sub>12</sub></b>	440.00000	465.00000	452.50000	131.80947	150.00000	141.39915
<b>X<sub>13</sub></b>	2.21000	2.43000	2.32000	0.94596	0.84393	0.90092
<b>X<sub>14</sub></b>	4.43000	4.60000	4.51500	0.55514	0.73855	0.65722
<b>X<sub>15</sub></b>	2.42000	2.46000	2.44000	0.49604	0.70238	0.60683

Table II indicates that the group means involve that Lalgola block afford relatively higher scores than Beldanga-II block to maximum variables of effectiveness of Kanyashree one time grant (Y). The Table also shows that the standard deviation of the scores of the Lalgola block is lower that of the scores of Beldanga-II block for most variables of effectiveness of Kanyashree one time grant (Y).

**Table III: Linear discriminant coefficient (D<sup>2</sup>) between dependent variable effectiveness of Kanyashree one time grant (Y) and 15 casual variables**

<b>Variables</b>	<b>Linear Discriminant Coefficient (D<sup>2</sup>)</b>
Age of the respondent (X <sub>1</sub> )	1.9937193
Educational status (X <sub>2</sub> )	0.4877408
Financial condition of the family (X <sub>3</sub> )	5.9704295
Housing condition (X <sub>4</sub> )	-0.5767843
Involvement towards the society (X <sub>5</sub> )	2.6739951
Association with Self Help Group (X <sub>6</sub> )	72.1470619
Reason behind the association with Self Help Group (X <sub>7</sub> )	-8.0440792
Availing bank loan (X <sub>8</sub> )	-1.0360605
Reason behind taking the bank loan (X <sub>9</sub> )	0.0278624
Nature and extent of savings (X <sub>10</sub> )	-18.4865074
Attention towards daughter's education (X <sub>11</sub> )	10.2589068
Expenditure towards daughter's education (X <sub>12</sub> )	0.0349461
Difficulties towards daughter's education (X <sub>13</sub> )	7.5180532
Role of Gram Panchayats in getting Kanyashree grant (X <sub>14</sub> )	10.0467370
Role of Block Development Office in getting public services (X <sub>15</sub> )	4.8177882

Table III indicates the D<sup>2</sup> based statistics and its corresponding linear discriminant coefficient of the fifteen variables such as age of the respondent (X<sub>1</sub>), educational status (X<sub>2</sub>), financial condition of the family (X<sub>3</sub>), housing condition (X<sub>4</sub>), involvement towards the society (X<sub>5</sub>), association with self help group (X<sub>6</sub>), reason behind the association with self help group (X<sub>7</sub>), availing bank loan (X<sub>8</sub>), reason behind taking the bank loan (X<sub>9</sub>), nature and extent of savings (X<sub>10</sub>), attention towards daughter's education (X<sub>11</sub>), expenditure towards daughter's education (X<sub>12</sub>), difficulties towards daughter's education (X<sub>13</sub>), role of Gram Panchayats in getting Kanyashree grant (X<sub>14</sub>) and role of Block Development Office in getting public services (X<sub>15</sub>).

**Table IV: Means, their differences and 'r' values of variables with respect to perceptual levels**



<b>Variables</b>	<b>High Level N1= 100 (Lalgola)</b>	<b>Low Level N2= 100 (Beldanga-II)</b>	<b>Mean Difference (MD)</b>	<b>‘r’ value</b>
X <sub>1</sub>	48.230	47.950	0.28	-0.1804*
X <sub>2</sub>	2.750	2.660	0.09	0.3418**
X <sub>3</sub>	1.580	1.550	0.03	0.2418**
X <sub>4</sub>	1.950	1.940	0.01	0.2073**
X <sub>5</sub>	1.430	1.430	0.00	0.3338**
X <sub>6</sub>	1.620	1.530	0.09	0.2012**
X <sub>7</sub>	1.510	1.300	0.21	0.2472**
X <sub>8</sub>	1.630	1.430	0.20	0.1804*
X <sub>9</sub>	1.360	0.900	0.46	0.2597**
X <sub>10</sub>	1.600	1.360	0.24	0.2413**
X <sub>11</sub>	2.600	2.610	-0.01	0.1779*
X <sub>12</sub>	440.000	465.000	-25.00	0.2188**
X <sub>13</sub>	2.210	2.430	-0.22	-0.2508**
X <sub>14</sub>	4.430	4.600	-0.17	-0.0059
X <sub>15</sub>	2.420	2.460	-0.04	0.1803*

Critical value (2-Tail, 0.05) = +or- 0.139\* Significant at 5% level

Critical value (2-Tail, 0.01) = +or- 0.182\*\* Significant at 1% level

Table IV shows the results as above mentioned mean values and their differences with significance of 15 variables for high and low level of retentively among parents of Lalgola block and Beldanga-II block of the Murshidabad District of West Bengal. The high perceptual level means the higher participation and higher accepting about the overall activities of perception about the effectiveness of Kanyashree one time grant towards the empowerment of women and on the other hand low perceptual level means the lower participation and surface accepting about the activities of perception about the effectiveness of Kanyashree one time grant towards the empowerment of women. Here, in this table, high level of perception always does not necessarily carry the high value and the same is true for the low level perception also and it does not always carry the low value.

In the Table , it is revealed that fourteen variables out of these fifteen variables have a strong bearing on the level of perception about the effectiveness of Kanyashree one time grant towards the empowerment of women such as age of the respondent (X<sub>1</sub>), educational status (X<sub>2</sub>), financial condition of the family (X<sub>3</sub>), housing condition (X<sub>4</sub>), involvement towards the society (X<sub>5</sub>), association with self help group (X<sub>6</sub>), reason behind the association with self help group (X<sub>7</sub>), availing bank loan (X<sub>8</sub>), reason behind taking the bank loan (X<sub>9</sub>), nature and extent of savings (X<sub>10</sub>), attention towards daughter’s education (X<sub>11</sub>), expenditure towards daughter’s education (X<sub>12</sub>), difficulties towards daughter’s education(X<sub>13</sub>) and role of Block Development Office in getting public services (X<sub>15</sub>). Here, in the table indicates that the significant level of impact in differentiating between the high and low level of perception among the parents of

perception about the effectiveness of Kanyashree one time grant towards the empowerment of women of Lalgola and Beldanga-II Blocks of Murshidabad District.

The mean value shows the variables like age of the respondent ( $X_1$ ) of two blocks Lalgola and Beldanga-II are 48.230 and 47.950 respectively. The parents of Lalgola block is the higher mean value of their age than their counterparts of Beldanga-II block. The coefficient of correlation of the variable age of the respondent ( $X_1$ ) had negative impact on the level of perception which ultimately determines in discrimination of the high and low level of perception about the effectiveness of Kanyashree one time grant towards the empowerment of women.

Parents of Lalgola block have a higher mean value (2.750) of their educational status ( $X_2$ ) than their counterparts of Beldanga-II block (2.660). Higher educational qualifications mean the higher educational achievements which enable them in perceptive the problems of Women empowerment. Here, educational status ( $X_2$ ) had a strong positive bearing on the level of perception about the effectiveness of Kanyashree one time grant towards the empowerment of women.

The mean value of the variables like financial condition of the family ( $X_3$ ) of two blocks Lalgola and Beldanga-II are 1.580 and 1.550 respectively. The parents of Lalgola block is the higher mean value of their financial condition than their counterparts of Beldanga-II block. Hence, the variable ( $X_3$ ) had positive impact on the level of perception about the effectiveness of Kanyashree one time grant towards the empowerment of women to discriminant between its high and low value.

The variables like housing condition ( $X_4$ ) of two blocks Lalgola and Beldanga-II are mean value of 1.950 and 1.940 respectively. The coefficient of correlation of the variable housing condition ( $X_4$ ) had positive bearing on the dependent variable ( $Y$ ).

Parents of Lalgola and Beldanga-II blocks are equal of mean value (1.430) of their involvement towards the society ( $X_5$ ). Here, involvement towards the society ( $X_5$ ) had a positive bearing on the level of perception about the effectiveness of Kanyashree one time grant towards the empowerment of women.

The mean value of the association with self help group ( $X_6$ ) is high value in northern part (1.620) than the southern part (1.530) of Murshidabad District. Since the occupational level of the northern part is more than that of the southern part. Thus the correlation value shows its positive bearing towards predictor variable.

Again, the mean value of reason behind the association with self help group ( $X_7$ ) in northern part and eastern part are 1.510 and 1.300 respectively of the District of Murshidabad. The coefficient of correlation of the variable reason behind the association with self help group ( $X_7$ ) had strong positive impact on the level of attitude which ultimately determines in discrimination of the high and low level of perception about the effectiveness of Kanyashree one time grant towards the empowerment of women.

The high value of the variable availing bank loan ( $X_8$ ) determines that northern part (1.630) of Murshidabad District plays a prominent role than the southern part (1.430) of the District. Hence, the variable availing bank loan ( $X_8$ ) had positive impact on the level of attitude to discriminant between its high and low value.

The mean value of reason behind taking the bank loan ( $X_9$ ) in northern part of the District is 1.360 whereas that in southern part of the District is 0.900 which indicates that the parents of northern part are much more easy and they are in regular touch with the bank loan than their counter part of southern part of Murshidabad District. The correlation value shows its strong positive significance on the dependent variable which ultimate determines the discrimination between of the two regions of the District.

The variable like nature and extent of savings ( $X_{10}$ ) of two blocks Lalgola and Beldanga-II are mean value 1.600 and 1.360 respectively. The coefficient of correlation of the variable nature and extent of savings ( $X_{10}$ ) had positive bearing on the dependent variable (Y).

The mean value of the attention towards daughter's education ( $X_{11}$ ) of two blocks Lalgola and Beldanga-II are 2.600 and 2.610 respectively. It is not alone sufficient in explaining differences between high and low level of perception. Here, attention towards daughter's education ( $X_{11}$ ) had a positive bearing on the level of perception about the effectiveness of Kanyashree one time grant towards the empowerment of women.

The mean value of expenditure towards daughter's education ( $X_{12}$ ) in Lalgola block is 440.000 whereas that in Beldanga-II block is 465.000 which show the belief of parents that the daughter's education of Beldanga-II block is high income group. It means parents of Beldanga-II more aware about significance of daughter's education. It indicates that parents of Beldanga-II block engaged in helping their daughter's to better education. Here, expenditure towards daughter's education ( $X_{12}$ ) had a positive bearing on the level of perception about the effectiveness of Kanyashree one time grant towards the empowerment of women.

The mean value of difficulties towards daughter's education ( $X_{13}$ ) of parents of Lalgola block is 2.210 and Beldanga-II block is 2.430. The coefficient of correlation of the variable difficulties towards daughter's education ( $X_{13}$ ) had strong negative impact on the level of perception which ultimately determines in discrimination of the high and low level of perception about the effectiveness of Kanyashree one time grant towards the empowerment of women. The negative sign indicates that the low difficulties towards daughter's education help the parents in devoting the maximum time for the cause of education. Thus, the low mean value of difficulties towards daughter's education means the high level of perception.

The variable like role of Block Development Office in getting public services ( $X_{15}$ ) of two blocks Lalgola and Beldanga-II are mean value of 2.420 and 2.460 respectively. The coefficient of correlation of the variable housing condition ( $X_4$ ) had positive bearing on

the level of perception about the effectiveness of Kanyashree one time grant towards the empowerment of women.

**Table-V: Percentage Contribution of Individual Character to the Total Distance Measurement**

Code No	Variables Coefficient	Mean Difference	Coefficient X Mean Difference	Percentage Contribution	Rank
X <sub>1</sub>	1.9937193	0.28	0.558241404	3.07	
X <sub>2</sub>	0.4877408	0.09	0.043896672	0.24	
X <sub>3</sub>	5.9704295	0.03	0.179112885	0.99	
X <sub>4</sub>	-0.5767843	0.01	0.005767843	0.03	
X <sub>5</sub>	2.6739951	0.00	0.000000000	0.00	
X <sub>6</sub>	72.1470619	0.09	6.493235571	35.76	I
X <sub>7</sub>	-8.0440792	0.21	1.689256632	9.30	IV
X <sub>8</sub>	-1.0360605	0.20	0.2072121	1.14	
X <sub>9</sub>	0.0278624	0.46	0.012816704	0.07	
X <sub>10</sub>	-18.4865074	0.24	4.436761776	24.43	II
X <sub>11</sub>	10.2589068	0.01	0.102589068	0.56	
X <sub>12</sub>	0.0349461	25.00	0.8736525	4.81	
X <sub>13</sub>	7.5180532	0.22	1.653971704	9.11	V
X <sub>14</sub>	10.0467370	0.17	1.70794529	9.41	III
X <sub>15</sub>	4.8177882	0.04	0.192711528	1.06	

Table V presents the percentage contribution of the total discrimination by the most discriminating variables. The study illustrates the relative significance of variables based on their power to discriminant between two retentively level categories, the percentage contribution of each of these variables, the total distance are calculated, the MD (mean difference) of two groups in respect of each variables and i.e. declining.

Table V showed the percentage contribution of each variable to the total discrimination (18.1572). Out of the 15 variables considered only association with self help group (35.76%), nature and extent of savings (24.43%), role of gram panchayats in getting Kanyashree grant (9.41%), reason behind the association with self help group (9.30%), difficulties towards daughter's education (9.11%) in a cluster contributed more than 88% towards the total discrimination. Hence, the association with self help group(X<sub>6</sub>), nature and extent of savings (X<sub>10</sub>), role of gram panchayats in getting Kanyashree grant (X<sub>14</sub>), reason behind the association with self help group (X<sub>7</sub>) and difficulties towards daughter's education (X<sub>13</sub>) have been found to be key discriminators in separating between the high and low level of attitude among parents of Lalgola and Beldanga\_II blocks of Murshidabad District of West Bengal towards the public libraries in empowering women.

**Table-VI: Standardized Canonical Discriminant Function Coefficients**

Variables	Func 1	Func 2	Func 3	Func 4	Func 5	Func 6	Func 7
X <sub>1</sub>	-.12682	.29436	-.50457	.26677	.04622	.27538	.31499
X <sub>2</sub>	.44473	-.05467	.21557	.34086	.18312	.19904	.24699
X <sub>3</sub>	-.18804	-.64983	.31457	.35929	-.96222	.54062	.25827
X <sub>4</sub>	.23986	-.28236	-.42392	-.04957	.54675	.23463	-.34706
X <sub>5</sub>	.26724	-.34615	.02425	-.23675	-.27350	-.01031	.06145
X <sub>6</sub>	-.47407	1.41869	.84163	-.44527	-2.49716	.26132	-.08635
X <sub>7</sub>	.32467	-.80055	-.59555	.49271	.63497	.03720	1.07437
X <sub>8</sub>	.13833	.13388	-.02183	-.12636	.00621	-.08578	.35926
X <sub>9</sub>	-.05994	-.12656	.70787	.48300	.01426	.21379	-1.38920
X <sub>10</sub>	.52684	-.44325	-.51797	-.70332	2.09178	-.49404	.16753
X <sub>11</sub>	.18777	.70001	-.09681	.00026	.37490	.00091	-.28565
X <sub>12</sub>	.09919	.58579	-.06870	-.45885	.03320	.16661	.06641
X <sub>13</sub>	-.06937	-.18198	.54581	-.17780	.61498	.82505	.15324
X <sub>14</sub>	.03416	.44021	.21679	.43820	.09290	.17758	-.05447
X <sub>15</sub>	.17146	-.01833	.35232	.34646	.14766	-.45370	.18610

Table VI reveals that standardized canonical discriminant function coefficients are given for powerful discriminant function scores from standardized predictors. The signs indicate whether the coefficient is making a positive or negative contribution to the function extracted.

**Table-VII: Structure matrix**

Variables	Func 1	Func 2	Func 3	Func 4	Func 5	Func 6	Func 7
X <sub>2</sub>	.70023*	-.00654	.04466	.28437	-.08235	.20094	.16135
X <sub>5</sub>	.61357*	-.24022	-.02465	-.17353	-.16843	-.02254	-.08955
X <sub>12</sub>	.58322*	.11048	-.34449	-.08119	-.23739	.27420	-.04894
X <sub>13</sub>	-.53681*	-.07572	.47367	-.20786	.44222	.37128	.20646
X <sub>4</sub>	.53232*	-.12856	-.40811	.07099	.03543	.35885	-.34468
X <sub>11</sub>	.51913*	.39495	-.12551	-.05740	-.06185	.17490	-.28922
X <sub>3</sub>	.50212*	-.11583	-.15839	.10583	-.45798	.41291	-.05799
X <sub>10</sub>	.48988*	.15184	.24055	-.42141	.02078	-.06961	.19221
X <sub>7</sub>	.47969*	.08826	.21260	-.25778	.00807	-.03952	.28782
X <sub>9</sub>	.44526*	.01960	.29488	-.15347	-.04378	-.02687	-.23831
X <sub>8</sub>	.32460*	.09716	.22184	-.21271	-.13054	.00768	-.04359
X <sub>1</sub>	-.18649	.15139	-.42939*	.26776	.09411	.15950	.25221
X <sub>14</sub>	.04655	.40760	.18907	.52407*	.04880	.17048	.02959
X <sub>6</sub>	.40645	.24818	.34059	-.41713*	-.07471	-.02815	.22483
X <sub>15</sub>	.19939	-.07113	.21703	.41662	.17245	-.45586*	.18677

\*denotes largest absolute correlation between each variable and any discriminant function.

Table VII indicates that the help understand the functions of variables with large coefficients for a particular function are grouped together. These grouping are shown with asterisks. Thus, the variables indicate the highest coefficients value among the coefficients values which has asterisks in row wise here the value has shown in the Function 1, because these variables have coefficients values that is the largest of the Function 1 than other Functions in the row. On the other hand age of the respondent ( $X_1$ ) is associated with the Function 3, role of Gram Panchayats in getting Kanyashree grant ( $X_{14}$ ) and association with Self Help Group ( $X_6$ ) are associated with the Function 4 and role of Block Development Office in getting public services ( $X_{15}$ ) is associated with the Function 6, all these coefficients values are considered as highest coefficients value which are indicated as asterisks in the row wise.

**Table VIII: Number of cases by group of unweighted and weighted between dependent variable (Z) and 22 casual variables**

Number of cases	Lalgola		Beldanga-II		Lalgola & Beldanga-II	
	Unweighted	Weighted	Unweighted	Weighted	Unweighted	Weighted
1	2	2.0	1	1.0	3	3.0
3	54	54.0	49	49.0	103	103.0
4	43	43.0	34	34.0	77	77.0
5	1	1.0			1	1.0
8			3	3.0	3	3.0
9			1	1.0	1	1.0
10			6	6.0	6	6.0
11			2	2.0	2	2.0
12			1	1.0	1	1.0
13			1	1.0	1	1.0
14			2	2.0	2	2.0
Total	100	100.00	100	100.00	200	200.00

Table VIII reveals that the numbers of observations are used in the unweighted and weighted analysis and the distribution of the observations into groups used of the two blocks namely Lalgola and Beldanga-II in the analysis.

**Table IX: Group statistics between dependent variable the perception level of parents on women empowerment (Z) and 22 casual variables**

Variables	Group Means			Group Std. Deviation		
	Lalgola	Beldanga-II	Total	Lalgola	Beldanga-II	Total
$X_1$	48.23000	47.95000	48.09000	4.63159	6.43911	5.59629
$X_2$	2.75000	2.66000	2.70500	1.20918	1.27303	1.23921
$X_3$	1.58000	1.55000	1.56500	0.49604	0.50000	0.49700
$X_4$	1.95000	1.94000	1.94500	0.77035	0.73608	0.75153
$X_5$	1.43000	1.43000	1.43000	0.81965	0.81965	0.81758
$X_6$	1.62000	1.53000	1.57500	0.48783	0.50161	0.49558
$X_7$	1.51000	1.30000	1.40500	1.30651	1.39624	1.35282
$X_8$	1.63000	1.43000	1.53000	0.83672	0.53664	0.70824

X <sub>9</sub>	1.36000	0.90000	1.13000	1.31441	1.23501	1.29285
X <sub>10</sub>	1.60000	1.36000	1.48000	1.31809	1.37452	1.34859
X <sub>11</sub>	2.60000	2.61000	2.60500	0.51247	0.49021	0.50023
X <sub>12</sub>	440.00000	465.00000	452.50000	131.80947	150.00000	141.39915
X <sub>13</sub>	2.21000	2.43000	2.32000	0.94596	0.84393	0.90092
X <sub>14</sub>	4.43000	4.60000	4.51500	0.55514	0.73855	0.65722
X <sub>15</sub>	2.42000	2.46000	2.44000	0.49604	0.70238	0.60683
X <sub>16</sub>	10.19000	9.68000	9.93500	1.79052	1.54318	1.68671
X <sub>17</sub>	2.02000	2.21000	2.11500	1.26315	1.22512	1.24480
X <sub>18</sub>	1.45000	1.57000	1.51000	.86894	.93479	.90220
X <sub>19</sub>	1.67000	1.65000	1.66000	.99549	.95743	.97424
X <sub>20</sub>	2.43000	2.37000	2.40000	.83188	.87219	.85066
X <sub>25</sub>	1.90000	1.26000	1.58000	1.12367	.71943	.99425
X <sub>27</sub>	1.55000	1.73000	1.64000	.50000	.46829	.49154

Table IX shows that the group means imply that Lalgola block give comparatively higher scores than Beldanga-II block to maximum variables of the perception level of parents on women empowerment (Z). In the Table also indicates that the standard deviation of the scores of the Beldanga-II block is higher that of the scores of Lalgola block for most variables of the perception level of parents on women empowerment (Z).

**Table X: Linear discriminant coefficient (D<sup>2</sup>) between dependent variable the perception level of parents on women empowerment (Z) and 22 casual variables**

<b>Variables</b>	<b>Linear Discriminant Coefficient (D<sup>2</sup>)</b>
Age of the respondent (X <sub>1</sub> )	2.6338822
Educational status (X <sub>2</sub> )	-0.9010188
Financial condition of the family (X <sub>3</sub> )	10.5005449
Housing condition (X <sub>4</sub> )	1.9460936
Involvement towards the society (X <sub>5</sub> )	3.3033970
Association with Self Help Group (X <sub>6</sub> )	70.2698651
Reason behind the association with Self Help Group (X <sub>7</sub> )	-11.1948613
Availing bank loan (X <sub>8</sub> )	0.4515821
Reason behind taking the bank loan (X <sub>9</sub> )	-3.7066998
Nature and extent of savings (X <sub>10</sub> )	-13.6685756
Attention towards daughter's education (X <sub>11</sub> )	21.5965916
Expenditure towards daughter's education (X <sub>12</sub> )	0.0540163
Difficulties towards daughter's education (X <sub>13</sub> )	12.0782084
Role of Gram Panchayats in getting Kanyashree grant (X <sub>14</sub> )	16.2574087
Role of Block Development Office in getting public services (X <sub>15</sub> )	3.7722475
Effectiveness of Kanyashree grant (X <sub>16</sub> )	6.7840839
Use of Kanyashree scholarship grant towards education (X <sub>17</sub> )	7.4195864
Wages towards women empowerment (X <sub>18</sub> )	0.8427943
Encouragement towards women empowerment (X <sub>19</sub> )	5.6107413
Social taboo towards women empowerment (X <sub>20</sub> )	7.5347382
Role of public libraries towards knowledge dissemination (X <sub>25</sub> )	3.2714672

Table X indicates the D<sup>2</sup> based statistics and its consequent linear discriminant coefficient of the twenty two variables representing age of the respondent (X<sub>1</sub>), educational status (X<sub>2</sub>), financial condition of the family (X<sub>3</sub>), housing condition (X<sub>4</sub>), involvement towards the society (X<sub>5</sub>), association with self help group (X<sub>6</sub>), reason behind the association with self help group (X<sub>7</sub>), availing bank loan (X<sub>8</sub>), reason behind taking the bank loan (X<sub>9</sub>), nature and extent of savings (X<sub>10</sub>), attention towards daughter's education (X<sub>11</sub>), expenditure towards daughter's education (X<sub>12</sub>), difficulties towards daughter's education (X<sub>13</sub>), role of Gram Panchayats in getting Kanyashree grant (X<sub>14</sub>), role of Block Development Office in getting public services (X<sub>15</sub>), effectiveness of Kanyashree grant (X<sub>16</sub>), use of Kanyashree scholarship grant towards education (X<sub>17</sub>), wages towards women empowerment (X<sub>18</sub>), encouragement towards women empowerment (X<sub>19</sub>), social taboo towards women empowerment (X<sub>20</sub>), role of public libraries towards knowledge dissemination (X<sub>25</sub>) and activities of public libraries (X<sub>27</sub>).

**Table XI: Means, their differences and 'r' values of variables with respect to perceptual levels**

Variables	High Level N1= 100 (Lalgola)	Low Level N2= 100 (Beldanga-II)	Mean Difference (MD)	'r' value
X <sub>1</sub>	48.230	47.950	0.28	-0.0545
X <sub>2</sub>	2.750	2.660	0.09	0.1323
X <sub>3</sub>	1.580	1.550	0.03	0.1697*
X <sub>4</sub>	1.950	1.940	0.01	0.0566
X <sub>5</sub>	1.430	1.430	0.00	0.1122
X <sub>6</sub>	1.620	1.530	0.09	0.0440
X <sub>7</sub>	1.510	1.300	0.21	0.0604
X <sub>8</sub>	1.630	1.430	0.20	0.0638
X <sub>9</sub>	1.360	0.900	0.46	0.0876
X <sub>10</sub>	1.600	1.360	0.24	0.0830
X <sub>11</sub>	2.600	2.610	-0.01	0.0590
X <sub>12</sub>	440.000	465.000	-25.00	0.0916
X <sub>13</sub>	2.210	2.430	-0.22	-0.1467*
X <sub>14</sub>	4.430	4.600	-0.17	-0.4201**
X <sub>15</sub>	2.420	2.460	-0.04	0.0242
X <sub>16</sub>	10.190	9.680	0.51	0.0122
X <sub>17</sub>	2.020	2.210	-0.19	-0.0333
X <sub>18</sub>	1.450	1.570	-0.12	-0.1108
X <sub>19</sub>	1.670	1.650	0.02	-0.0257
X <sub>20</sub>	2.430	2.370	0.06	0.0079
X <sub>25</sub>	1.900	1.260	0.64	-0.0994
X <sub>27</sub>	1.550	1.730	-0.18	0.1104

Critical value (2-Tail, 0.05) = +or- 0.139\* Significant at 5% level



Critical value (2-Tail, 0.01) = +or- 0.182\*\* Significant at 1% level

Table XI indicates the outcome as above provide the mean values and their differences with impact of 22 variables of high and low level of retentively among parents of Lalgola block and Beldanga-II block of the Murshidabad District of West Bengal. The high perceptual level means the higher participation and higher accepting about the overall activities of the perception level of parents on women empowerment and on the other hand low perceptual level means the lower participation and surface accepting about the activities of the perception level of parents on women empowerment.

The mean value shows of the variable like financial condition of the family ( $X_3$ ) of two blocks Lalgola and Beldanga-II are 1.580 and 1.550 respectively. The parents of Lalgola block is the higher mean value of their financial condition than their counterparts of Beldanga-II block. Hence, the variable financial condition of the family ( $X_3$ ) had positive impact on the perception level of parents on women empowerment.

The mean value of difficulties towards daughter's education ( $X_{13}$ ) of parents of Lalgola block is 2.210 and Beldanga-II block is 2.430. The coefficient of correlation of the variable difficulties towards daughter's education ( $X_{13}$ ) had strong negative impact on the perception level of parents on women empowerment.

The variable like role of gram panchayats in getting Kanyashree grant ( $X_{14}$ ) of two blocks Lalgola and Beldanga-II are mean value 4.430 and 4.600 respectively. The coefficient of correlation of the variable role of gram panchayats in getting Kanyashree grant ( $X_{14}$ ) had negative bearing on the perception level of parents on women empowerment.

**Table-XII: Percentage Contribution of Individual Character to the Total Distance Measurement**

Code No	Variables Coefficient	Mean Difference	Coefficient X Mean Difference	Percentage Contribution	Rank
X <sub>1</sub>	2.6338822	0.28	0.737487016	2.45	
X <sub>2</sub>	-0.9010188	0.09	0.081091692	0.27	
X <sub>3</sub>	10.5005449	0.03	0.315016347	1.05	
X <sub>4</sub>	1.9460936	0.01	0.019460936	0.06	
X <sub>5</sub>	3.3033970	0.00	0.000000000	0.00	
X <sub>6</sub>	70.2698651	0.09	6.324287859	21.02	I
X <sub>7</sub>	-11.1948613	0.21	2.350920873	7.81	
X <sub>8</sub>	0.4515821	0.20	0.09031642	0.30	
X <sub>9</sub>	-3.7066998	0.46	1.705081908	5.67	
X <sub>10</sub>	-13.6685756	0.24	3.280458144	10.90	III
X <sub>11</sub>	21.5965916	0.01	0.215965916	0.72	
X <sub>12</sub>	0.0540163	25.00	1.3504075	4.49	
X <sub>13</sub>	12.0782084	0.22	2.657205848	8.83	V
X <sub>14</sub>	16.2574087	0.17	2.763789479	9.19	IV
X <sub>15</sub>	3.7722475	0.04	0.1508899	0.50	

X <sub>16</sub>	6.7840839	0.51	3.459882789	11.50	II
X <sub>17</sub>	7.4195864	0.19	1.409721416	4.68	
X <sub>18</sub>	0.8427943	0.12	0.101135316	0.34	
X <sub>19</sub>	5.6107413	0.02	0.112214826	0.37	
X <sub>20</sub>	7.5347382	0.06	0.452084292	1.50	
X <sub>25</sub>	3.2714672	0.64	2.093739008	6.96	
X <sub>27</sub>	2.3075637	0.18	0.415361466	1.38	

Table XII exposed the percentage contribution of each variable to the total discrimination (30.08652). Out of the 22 variables considered only association with self help group (21.02%), effectiveness of Kanyashree grant (11.50%), nature and extent of savings (10.90%), role of Gram Panchayats in getting Kanyashree grant (9.19%), difficulties towards daughter's education (8.83%) in a cluster contributed more than 61% towards the total discrimination. Hence, the association with self help group (X<sub>6</sub>), effectiveness of Kanyashree grant (X<sub>16</sub>), nature and extent of savings (X<sub>10</sub>), role of Gram Panchayats in getting Kanyashree grant (X<sub>14</sub>) and difficulties towards daughter's education (X<sub>13</sub>) have been found to be key discriminators in separating between the high and low level of attitude among parents of Lalgola and Beldanga\_II blocks of Murshidabad District of West Bengal towards the public libraries in empowering women.

**Table-XIII: Standardized Canonical Discriminant Function Coefficients**

VAR	Func 1	Func 2	Func 3	Func 4	Func 5	Func 6	Func 7	Func 8	Func 9	Func 10
X <sub>1</sub>	.22290	.15780	.09027	.78936	.03127	-.01046	.07726	-.09993	-.14809	-.03716
X <sub>2</sub>	-.20778	-.12079	.29927	.23269	-.14707	-.13623	-.19841	-.10077	.28333	.13267
X <sub>3</sub>	-.25892	.29942	.41855	.34873	-.05569	-.50323	-.30647	.66339	.03914	.14471
X <sub>4</sub>	.10871	.34273	-.15258	.17749	.05323	.55284	.75206	-.00949	-.23106	-.25748
X <sub>5</sub>	.07939	-.00893	.02797	.54287	-.09006	-.12877	.36451	-.36211	.17184	.42925
X <sub>6</sub>	-.11950	1.68937	-.80194	.61523	.45601	-.134791	-.69635	.00443	-.16161	.30963
X <sub>7</sub>	-.02644	-.42083	.27487	-.06969	-.11123	.50187	.26354	.40375	.13494	-.05497
X <sub>8</sub>	.23223	-.40264	.46380	-.14438	-.14350	-.05749	.35836	.64316	.48891	-.12655
X <sub>9</sub>	-.35033	.61322	.25128	-.50976	.52460	.31660	-.66960	-.124332	-.54177	-.13491
X <sub>10</sub>	.15261	-1.11500	-.16533	-.42758	-1.02447	.73979	.80677	.27425	-.26365	.14615
X <sub>11</sub>	.01923	-.46171	.08573	.24585	.00819	.76543	-.24078	.25893	-.05548	-.36400
X <sub>12</sub>	.34593	.12769	.22749	-.33277	.08890	-.19858	-.23052	-.42249	.16823	.15434
X <sub>13</sub>	.11934	.16389	-.35465	.25602	.20644	.38130	.11142	-.06807	.47215	.42399
X <sub>14</sub>	.91245	.08751	-.15564	-.10815	.00070	.10801	-.20105	-.08396	-.15124	-.04665
X <sub>15</sub>	-.22053	.75941	-.05783	-.18569	-.06815	.24109	-.02508	.14897	.30333	-.19845
X <sub>16</sub>	.31437	.29805	.00839	.23142	-.08517	-.22618	-.11798	.25282	-.17205	.14951
X <sub>17</sub>	-.25845	.15548	.26798	.64554	.39690	-.01657	-.36417	.39950	-.52232	-.10711
X <sub>18</sub>	.44751	-.04157	.10578	-.10678	-.26353	-.31495	-.15410	-.08101	.45923	.00550
X <sub>19</sub>	-.06329	-.00912	.29467	-.21704	.27337	-.13122	.44566	.12210	.15935	-.01553
X <sub>20</sub>	.11362	.01711	.32288	.03771	.32455	.31093	-.01780	.23505	.42855	.49514
X <sub>25</sub>	.45730	-.09209	-.09378	-.23074	.41979	-.17139	.30276	.36138	-.18916	.23536
X <sub>27</sub>	-.27667	-.21745	.16672	-.01132	.03719	.29047	-.06580	-.13669	-.35854	.17375

Table XIII depicts that standardized canonical discriminant function coefficients are given for powerful discriminant function scores from standardized predictors. The signs indicate whether the coefficient is making a positive or negative contribution to the function extracted.

**Table-XIV: Structure matrix**

VAR	Func 1	Func 2	Func 3	Func 4	Func 5	Func	Func 7	Func 8	Func 9	Func 10
X <sub>1</sub>	.69027*	.04409	-.11655	-.01974	-.01177	.12310	-.35584	.01538	-.08529	-.09044
X <sub>2</sub>	-.08028	.62421*	.02082	-.03361	-.07687	.22882	.02419	.11673	.22310	-.17550
X <sub>3</sub>	-.08683	-.00081	-.61074*	.16636	.36222	.06833	.00662	-.05311	.37757	.18326
X <sub>4</sub>	.13956	.06700	.52373*	-.06250	-.33984	.09144	.01648	-.19072	-.08417	.07600
X <sub>5</sub>	.04469	.05309	.38452*	.09896	-.38233	.04508	-.14427	.01224	-.03381	.25648
X <sub>6</sub>	.04016	.18245	.26131*	-.23598	-.18003	-.00371	.15738	.12785	-.13512	.17795
X <sub>7</sub>	.14625	.16883	.06727	.50288*	.07518	-.12554	.18796	-.14732	-.03911	-.21888
X <sub>8</sub>	-.10833	.01486	-.09654	.18793	.62777*	-.22606	-.18435	.03886	-.05990	-.16673
X <sub>9</sub>	.03422	.08178	.45569	.06996	-.48775*	.07815	.01935	.25065	-.15045	.02593
X <sub>10</sub>	-.05337	.20181	-.02909	-.23481	-.48581*	.06183	.05517	.11458	-.38111	.41875
X <sub>11</sub>	-.04460	.02878	.00347	-.10960	.41226*	-.28399	.31270	-.04259	.13855	-.25328
X <sub>12</sub>	.07585	-.12281	.21963	.05713	-.39800	.55182*	-.13058	.16552	-.16687	-.11444
X <sub>13</sub>	.14569	.16149	.40200	.05676	-.25723	.32588	.45728*	.00200	-.15214	-.18438
X <sub>14</sub>	.19128	.03327	.11261	-.16225	.27171	-.02219	.33111	.23421	-.40232*	.27792
X <sub>15</sub>	-.04310	.34332	.25745	-.32019	-.13266	.10415	.01106	-.16901	-.38830*	.29386
X <sub>16</sub>	.14239	-.01572	.01889	-.03985	.13725	-.22278	.06280	-.14437	.30566*	-.23768
X <sub>17</sub>	.06674	.01594	.29069	-.09374	.20115	.33462	-.25174	.21543	.24126	.51329*
X <sub>18</sub>	-.03414	.26519	.06951	-.28501	-.24777	.08872	.01836	.07824	-.33972	.42117*
X <sub>19</sub>	-.05644	.26161	-.09830	-.23782	-.34478	.02831	-.01946	.13743	-.35685	.41907*
X <sub>20</sub>	.05041	.08874	.29412	.18376	-.30144	.08848	.28771	-.32988	-.15665	.40000*
X <sub>25</sub>	.12132	.29464	.16707	.02428	-.28916	.00850	-.04980	.15313	-.15619	.37168*
X <sub>27</sub>	-.09805	-.12691	.11540	.01342	.00860	.25565	.07018	-.04132	-.25320	.36557*

\* denotes largest absolute correlation between each variable and any discriminant function.

Table XIV depicts that the help understand the functions of variables with large coefficients for a particular function are grouped together. These grouping are shown with asterisks. Thus, the variable show the highest coefficients value among the coefficients values which has asterisks in row wise here the value has shown in Function 1, because this variable has coefficients values that is the largest of the Function 1 than other Functions in the row. Therefore the flowing above mentioned highest coefficients values from the Function 2 to 10 have measured like the Function 1 coefficients value.

**Table XV: Number of cases by group of unweighted and weighted between dependent variable (W) and 15 casual variables**

Number of cases	Lalgola		Beldanga-II		Lalgola & Beldanga-II	
	Unweighted	Weighted	Unweighted	Weighted	Unweighted	Weighted
1	45	45.0	11	11.0	56	56.0
2	50	50.0	83	83.0	133	133.0
3			1	1.0	1	1.0
4	5	5.0	3	3.0	8	8.0
5			2	2.0	2	2.0
Total	100	100.00	100	100.00	200	200.00

Table XV indicates that the numbers of observations are used in the unweighted and weighted analysis and the distribution of the observations into groups used of the two blocks namely Lalgola and Beldanga-II in the analysis.

**Table XVI: Group statistics between role of public libraries towards women empowerment (W) and 15 casual variables**

Variables	Group Means			Group Std. Deviation		
	Lalgola	Beldanga-II	Total	Lalgola	Beldanga-II	Total
<b>X<sub>16</sub></b>	10.19000	9.68000	9.93500	1.79052	1.54318	1.68671
<b>X<sub>17</sub></b>	2.02000	2.21000	2.11500	1.26315	1.22512	1.24480
<b>X<sub>18</sub></b>	1.45000	1.57000	1.51000	.86894	.93479	.90220
<b>X<sub>19</sub></b>	1.67000	1.65000	1.66000	.99549	.95743	.97424
<b>X<sub>20</sub></b>	2.43000	2.37000	2.40000	.83188	.87219	.85066
<b>X<sub>21</sub></b>	3.41000	4.52000	3.96500	.62109	2.77609	2.08217
<b>X<sub>22</sub></b>	1.47000	1.21000	1.34000	.50161	.43333	.48536
<b>X<sub>23</sub></b>	1.12000	1.05000	1.08500	.32660	.21904	.27958
<b>X<sub>24</sub></b>	1.02000	1.01000	1.01500	.14071	.10000	.12186
<b>X<sub>25</sub></b>	1.90000	1.26000	1.58000	1.12367	.71943	.99425
<b>X<sub>26</sub></b>	1.45000	1.15000	1.30000	1.02863	.55732	.83876
<b>X<sub>27</sub></b>	1.55000	1.73000	1.64000	.50000	.46829	.49154
<b>X<sub>28</sub></b>	2.03000	1.77000	1.90000	.97913	.77662	.89105
<b>X<sub>29</sub></b>	2.03000	2.03000	2.03000	1.43164	1.26695	1.34840
<b>X<sub>30</sub></b>	2.17000	2.15000	2.16000	.79207	.72995	.75979

Table XVI shows that the group means occupy that Lalgola block provide reasonably higher scores than Beldanga-II block to maximum variables of role of public libraries towards women empowerment (W). In the Table also shows that the standard deviation of the scores of the Lalgola block is higher that of the scores of Beldanga-II block for most variables of role of public libraries towards women empowerment (W).

**Table XVII: Linear discriminant coefficient (D<sup>2</sup>) between dependent variable role of public libraries towards women empowerment (W) and 15 casual variables**

Variables	Linear Discriminant Coefficient (D <sup>2</sup> )
Effectiveness of Kanyashree grant (X <sub>16</sub> )	3.8741549
Use of Kanyashree scholarship grant towards education (X <sub>17</sub> )	2.5743115
Wages towards women empowerment (X <sub>18</sub> )	0.7615413
Encouragement towards women empowerment (X <sub>19</sub> )	2.4790958
Social taboo towards women empowerment (X <sub>20</sub> )	1.3640450
Assess the level of women empowerment (X <sub>21</sub> )	0.8092731
Availability of public library (X <sub>22</sub> )	3.0962221
Association with rural public library (X <sub>23</sub> )	27.5845290
Level of association with rural library (X <sub>24</sub> )	70.2607088

Role of public libraries towards knowledge dissemination (X <sub>25</sub> )	-1.3297009
Available services of rural library (X <sub>26</sub> )	-6.6495959
Activities of public libraries (X <sub>27</sub> )	4.5113225
Expected services of rural library (X <sub>28</sub> )	2.8706405
Up-gradation of public library (X <sub>29</sub> )	-0.8328031
Suggestion towards development public library (X <sub>30</sub> )	4.6691395

Table XVII exhibits the D<sup>2</sup> based statistics and its consequent linear discriminant coefficient of the fifteen variables like effectiveness of Kanyashree grant (X<sub>16</sub>), use of Kanyashree scholarship grant towards education (X<sub>17</sub>), wages towards women empowerment (X<sub>18</sub>), encouragement towards women empowerment (X<sub>19</sub>), social taboo towards women empowerment (X<sub>20</sub>), assess the level of women empowerment (X<sub>21</sub>), availability of public library (X<sub>22</sub>), association with rural public library (X<sub>23</sub>), level of association with rural library (X<sub>24</sub>), role of public libraries towards knowledge dissemination (X<sub>25</sub>), available services of rural library (X<sub>26</sub>), activities of public libraries (X<sub>27</sub>), expected services of rural library (X<sub>28</sub>), up-gradation of public library (X<sub>29</sub>) and suggestion towards development public library (X<sub>30</sub>).

**Table XVIII: Means, their differences and ‘r’ values of variables with respect to perceptual levels**

Variables	High Level N1= 100	Low Level N2= 100	Mean Difference (MD)	‘r’ value
X <sub>16</sub>	10.190	9.680	0.51	0.0161
X <sub>17</sub>	2.020	2.210	-0.19	-0.0577
X <sub>18</sub>	1.450	1.570	-0.12	-0.1027
X <sub>19</sub>	1.670	1.650	0.02	-0.0955
X <sub>20</sub>	2.430	2.370	0.06	-0.0149
X <sub>21</sub>	3.410	4.520	-1.11	0.0603
X <sub>22</sub>	1.470	1.210	0.26	0.1336
X <sub>23</sub>	1.120	1.050	0.07	0.3473**
X <sub>24</sub>	1.020	1.010	0.01	-0.0869
X <sub>25</sub>	1.900	1.260	0.64	0.3052**
X <sub>26</sub>	1.450	1.150	0.30	0.4101**
X <sub>27</sub>	1.550	1.730	-0.18	0.3452**
X <sub>28</sub>	2.030	1.770	0.26	-0.0497
X <sub>29</sub>	2.030	2.030	0.00	0.3234**
X <sub>30</sub>	2.170	2.150	0.02	0.3081**

Critical value (2-Tail, 0.05) = +or- 0.139\* Significant at 5% level

Critical value (2-Tail, 0.01) = +or- 0.182\*\* Significant at 1% level

Table XVIII exhibits the effect as above provide the mean values and their differences with impact of 15 variables for high and low level of retentively among parents of Lalgola block and Beldanga-II block of the Murshidabad District of West Bengal. The high perceptual level means the higher participation and higher accepting about the

overall activities of the role of public libraries towards women empowerment and on the other hand low perceptual level means the lower participation and surface accepting about the activities of the role of public libraries towards women empowerment.

The mean value indicates the variable like association with rural public library ( $X_{23}$ ) of two blocks Lalgola and Beldanga-II are 1.120 and 1.050 respectively. The parents of Lalgola block is the higher mean value as their good financial condition than their counterparts of Beldanga-II block. Hence, the variable association with rural public library ( $X_{23}$ ) had positive impact on the role of public libraries towards women empowerment.

The variable like role of public libraries towards knowledge dissemination ( $X_{25}$ ) of two blocks Lalgola and Beldanga-II are mean value 1.900 and 1.260 respectively. The coefficient of correlation of the variable role of public libraries towards knowledge dissemination ( $X_{25}$ ) had positive bearing on the role of public libraries towards women empowerment.

Parents of Lalgola and Beldanga-II blocks are mean value 1.450 and 1.150 respectively of their available services of rural library ( $X_{26}$ ). Here, available services of rural library ( $X_{26}$ ) had a positive bearing on the role of public libraries towards women empowerment.

The mean value of activities of public libraries ( $X_{27}$ ) in Lalgola block is 1.550 whereas that in Beldanga-II block is 1.730 which shows the belief of parents that the public libraries of Beldanga-II block is higher activities which disseminate the knowledge. Here, activities of public libraries ( $X_{27}$ ) had a positive bearing on the role of public libraries towards women empowerment.

The mean value of the up-gradation of public library ( $X_{29}$ ) is equal value as northern part (2.030) and the southern part (2.030) of Murshidabad District. Thus, the coefficient of correlation of the variable up-gradation of public library ( $X_{29}$ ) had a positive bearing on the role of public libraries towards women empowerment.

The mean value of suggestion towards development public library ( $X_{30}$ ) in northern part of the District is 2.170 whereas that in southern part of the District is 2.150 which indicate that the parents of northern part are much easier and they are in regular touch with the public library than their counter part of southern part of Murshidabad District. The coefficient of correlation of the variable suggestion towards development public library ( $X_{30}$ ) had a positive bearing on the role of public libraries towards women empowerment.

**Table-XIX: Percentage Contribution of Individual Character to the Total Distance Measurement**

Code No	Variables Coefficient	Mean Difference	Coefficient X Mean Difference	Percentage Contribution	Rank
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X <sub>16</sub>	3.8741549	0.51	1.975818999	17.15	II
X <sub>17</sub>	2.5743115	0.19	0.489119185	4.24	
X <sub>18</sub>	0.7615413	0.12	0.091384956	0.79	
X <sub>19</sub>	2.4790958	0.02	0.049581916	0.43	
X <sub>20</sub>	1.3640450	0.06	0.0818427	0.71	
X <sub>21</sub>	0.8092731	1.11	0.898293141	7.80	IV
X <sub>22</sub>	3.0962221	0.26	0.80501776	6.99	
X <sub>23</sub>	27.5845290	0.07	1.93091703	16.76	III
X <sub>24</sub>	70.2607088	0.01	0.702607088	6.10	
X <sub>25</sub>	-1.3297009	0.64	0.851008576	7.38	V
X <sub>26</sub>	-6.6495959	0.30	1.99487877	17.31	
X <sub>27</sub>	4.5113225	0.18	0.81203805	7.05	I
X <sub>28</sub>	2.8706405	0.26	0.74636653	6.48	
X <sub>29</sub>	-0.8328031	0.00	0.00000000	0.00	
X <sub>30</sub>	4.6691395	0.02	0.09338279	0.81	

Table XIX exposed the percentage contribution of each variable to the total discrimination (11.52226). Out of the 15 variables considered here only available services of rural library (17.31%), effectiveness of Kanyashree grant (17.15%), association with rural public library (16.76%), assess the level of women empowerment (7.80%), role of public libraries towards knowledge dissemination (7.38%) in a cluster contributed more than 66% towards the total discrimination. Hence, the available services of rural library (X<sub>26</sub>), effectiveness of Kanyashree grant (X<sub>16</sub>), association with rural public library (X<sub>23</sub>) assess the level of women empowerment (X<sub>21</sub>) and role of public libraries towards knowledge dissemination (X<sub>25</sub>) have been found to be key discriminators in separating between the high and low level of attitude among parents of Lalgola and Beldanga\_II blocks of Murshidabad District of West Bengal towards the public libraries in empowering women.

**Table-XX: Standardized Canonical Discriminant Function Coefficients**

Variables	Func 1	Func 2	Func 3	Func 4
X <sub>16</sub>	-.07145	-.16362	-.05411	-.73958
X <sub>17</sub>	.14702	.03935	-.42956	-.07300
X <sub>18</sub>	-.28402	.00613	.87118	.05191
X <sub>19</sub>	.31406	-.26592	-.22219	.08520
X <sub>20</sub>	.05556	.01099	.16668	.49529
X <sub>21</sub>	-.11848	.14434	.00728	-.00378
X <sub>22</sub>	.14465	-.31477	.31331	-.08151
X <sub>23</sub>	.20168	-.35066	-.78120	.17397
X <sub>24</sub>	-.17947	-.15091	-.09930	.06594
X <sub>25</sub>	.16392	-.37832	-.13649	-.36683
X <sub>26</sub>	.67301	.41938	.86177	.05577
X <sub>27</sub>	-.00740	.75328	-.14825	-.06643
X <sub>28</sub>	-.03694	-.01052	-.15910	.42675

<b>X<sub>29</sub></b>	-.15137	.48045	.00558	-.03177
<b>X<sub>30</sub></b>	.36296	.23418	-.16376	.29722

Table XX shows that standardized canonical discriminant function coefficients are given for influential discriminant function scores from standardized predictors. The signs signify whether the coefficient is making a positive or negative contribution to the function extracted.

**Table-XXI: Structure matrix**

<b>Variables</b>	<b>Func 1</b>	<b>Func 2</b>	<b>Func 3</b>	<b>Func 4</b>
<b>X<sub>26</sub></b>	.81910*	.10331	.29850	-.09515
<b>X<sub>23</sub></b>	.72615*	-.00936	-.12306	-.02523
<b>X<sub>25</sub></b>	.62858*	-.04127	-.13287	-.25550
<b>X<sub>22</sub></b>	.42914*	-.21064	.26967	-.16979
<b>X<sub>30</sub></b>	.35219*	.28479	-.16485	.14502
<b>X<sub>27</sub></b>	.13869	.62812*	-.04663	-.22140
<b>X<sub>29</sub></b>	.24684	.43004*	-.14203	-.10079
<b>X<sub>21</sub></b>	-.09025	.24211*	-.05765	-.00292
<b>X<sub>19</sub></b>	.01927	-.22622*	-.06226	.17013
<b>X<sub>24</sub></b>	-.01258	-.17106*	.02615	.04737
<b>X<sub>18</sub></b>	-.12598	-.03471	.46050*	.19508
<b>X<sub>16</sub></b>	.01797	-.03805	-.02261	-.65705*
<b>X<sub>28</sub></b>	.05059	-.15057	-.16440	.42110*
<b>X<sub>20</sub></b>	.00208	-.00542	.08595	.32503*
<b>X<sub>17</sub></b>	-.02725	-.08727	-.13312	.18172*

\* denotes largest absolute correlation between each variable and any discriminant function.

Table XXI depicts that the assist understand the functions of variables with large coefficients for a particular function are grouped together. These grouping are revealed with asterisks. Thus, the variables show the highest coefficients value among the coefficients values which has asterisks in row wise here the value has shown in Function 1, because these variables have coefficients values that is the largest of the Function 1 than other Functions in the row. Therefore the flowing above mentioned highest coefficients values from the Function 2 to 4 have measured like the Function 1 coefficients value.

**Table- XXII: Parents about their preference of expenditure of difference between Lalgola and Beldanga-II blocks**

<b>Priorities of expenditure</b>	<b>Lalgola</b>	<b>Beldanga-II</b>
Daughter's education	47	57
Son's education	22	20



Investment of Agriculture/ Business	07	05
Treatment of family	01	00
Construction of sanitation facilities and maintenance of houses	00	00
Savings	00	00
Marriage of daughter	23	18

Table XXII demonstration while placing the question before each block of 100 respondent parents of the students' who were benefited from Kanyashree one time scholarship grant of Rs. 25,000 about their preference of expenditure as 47 per cent and 57 percent of the respondents agreed that their first priorities are on daughter's education and 22 per cent and 20 per cent of the parents are thinking about education of their sons respectively two blocks Lalgola and Beldanga-II. Total respondents had shown their interest on the marriages of their daughter of two blocks Lalgola and Beldanga-II are 23 per cent and 18 per cent respectively. 7 per cent and 5 per cent of the respondents agreed that their first priorities are on thinking about investment of agriculture/ business of the respectively blocks. Only 1 per cent respondent of parents is agreed that their first priorities on treatment of family of the block of Lalgola.

**Table XXIII: About parents changing social drawbacks of difference between Lalgola and Beldanga-II blocks**

Changing social drawbacks	Lalgola	Beldanga-II
Eradication of illiteracy	24	26
Child labour or school dropouts	24	18
Violence against to women	25	23
Child marriage	27	33

Table XXIII explains the question before each block of 100 respondent parents of the students' who were benefited from Kanyashree one time scholarship grant of Rs. 25,000 about their changing social drawbacks as eradication of illiteracy and child labour or school dropouts two blocks Lalgola and Beldanga-II are (24 per cent and 26 per cent) and (24 per cent and 18 per cent) respectively of respondents agreed with their priority. Total respondents had shown their interest on the violence against to women and child marriage of two blocks Lalgola and Beldanga-II are (25 per cent and 23 per cent) and (27 per cent and 33 per cent) respectively.

**Table XXIV: About meaning of women empowerment of difference between Lalgola and Beldanga-II blocks**

Meaning of women empowerment	Lalgola	Beldanga-II
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Financial empowerment	41	47
Decision within the family	13	18
Societal decision	37	25
Decision in rural administrative matters	09	10

Table XXIV explains the question before 100 respondent parents rise about their meaning of women empowerment of two blocks Lalgola and Beldanga-II are 41 per cent and 47 per cent respectively of respondents agreed with their priority financial empowerment and 13 per cent and 18 per cent of the parents are thinking about decision within the family. The total respondents had shown their interests on the societal decision and decision in rural administrative matters of the two blocks Lalgola and Beldanga-II are (37 per cent and 25 per cent) and (9 per cent and 10 per cent) respectively.

## **Conclusion**

As is said, “Leadership promotes gender equality”. Empowerment includes higher levels of literacy, educational achievement, awareness of rights and responsibilities, active participation in economic activities, better healthcare and equal access to productive resources and improvement in the standard of living. Here, the undertaken study is developed in the way that Kanyashree one time grant of Rupees Twenty Five Thousand was used for the purpose of higher education and the establishment of financial empowerment. The other issues covered are: taking decision in family, participation in societal decision and the contribution in the rural administrative decision. All these will unite to build the solidarity of women empowerment. The study observed that the Kanyashree one time grant of Rupees Twenty Five Thousand is used by some to deposited this to the bank, some purchased gold jewelries for their future marriage purpose, some invested the money for purchasing goat and cattle, some invested in agriculture, and a good numbers utilized this fund for their higher education and future training. The study also shows that public libraries are mechanisms for empowering women and their learning efforts and establish their identities as women learners. It also describes how their activities disintegrated the misconceived relationship between libraries as providers and citizens as beneficiaries merely enjoying fixed library services.

## **Recommendations**

Based on the findings of the study and their attendant implications, the following Recommendations are made:

- It should be essential for public library to remain open daily for an ample and appropriate time with sufficient staff and tools.
- There should be awareness creation on the services which the public libraries provide to their users.
- Recognizing the crucial role played by public libraries in the area of information, education, economics, politics, culture, health and other social activities, the government should have total commitment in the provision of updated services to public libraries.

- Public libraries should make awareness on other areas of need like leisure/ recreation since it will contribute to the social well being of the users.
- Public libraries can be explored so as to provide adequate information resources to the users.

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